



ILLINOIS HIV PLANNING GROUP

ILHPG NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 6

SUMMER 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May – June 2014: These tutorials are available at www.ilhpg.org :

- ILHPG Conflict of Interest Policy
- ILHPG Meetings and Robert's Rules of Order

June 12-13, 2014:

Quarterly ILHPG Meeting in Region 8 (Hilton Chicago/Oak Lawn)

July 24, 2014: Illinois HIV Planning Group/Ryan White Advisory Group combined care/prevention planning meeting (Springfield Hilton Hotel)

July-August 2014: The following tutorials will be available at www.ilhpg.org:

- Overview of 2015 Recommendations for HIV Prevention Strategies and Interventions
- Proposed 2015 Changes to the Prioritized Populations and Risk Groups

August 7, 2014: Region 5 HIV Strategy Engagement Meeting (Carbondale)

September 11-12, 2014: Quarterly ILHPG Meeting in Region 2 (Bloomington)

UPDATES FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Hello and Hola! Janet and Mike, the ILHPG Co-Chairs, would like to first thank everyone who participated in and worked on developing and providing presentations at the March 13-14, 2014 ILHPG meeting held in Alton. There were 54 people in attendance the first day and 46 the second day, including Garrett DeSherlia, the Region 4 Regional Implementation Group liaison to the ILHPG, the newest voting member on the group. Also in attendance were 13 other community and service providers from Region 4 and other areas across the state. We also had a record number of people who participated remotely in the meeting. We would like to extend a big thanks to Scott Fletcher, our website administrator and technical expert “extraordinaire”, without whom, we could not make this happen.

At the meeting, there were reports from agency liaisons and the Region 4 HIV care and prevention lead agent and provider agencies. There were also presentations on the current Illinois HIV epidemic, the Illinois STD epidemic, the updated ILHPG website, and the results of the 2013 engagement meetings and focus groups. The final 2014 ILHPG Engagement Plan was shared with the group.

A lot of hard work goes into planning the content, conducting, and participating in these meetings, so thank you to everyone. We realize that the sharing of data and information and the resulting discussions and decision-making are crucial to the success of the HIV prevention planning process, so the efforts are worth it!

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Finalizing the Illinois HIV Planning Group 2013 HIV Focus Groups Report for Regions 3 and 6 and the 2013 HIV/AIDS Strategy Stakeholder Engagement Meetings Report for Regions 3 and 8 were truly major accomplishments! Members are encouraged to please share these documents widely with community partners for use in local, regional, and state HIV strategic and program planning and other needs assessment activities. We should be very proud of the reports and want to again thank the Evaluation Committee for its work in developing the protocol and discussion guides for the meetings, regional care and prevention lead agents who helped develop robust invite lists for the meetings, attendees and presenters who participated, and everyone who helped with the logistical planning of the meetings and the drafting of the reports. We are looking forward to conducting our last in the series of HIV engagement meetings in Regions 2, 5, and 7 this year as well as the last in the series of focus groups which will be conducted in Regions 1 and 5.

Submitted by Janet Nuss, Illinois Department of Public Health ILHPG Co-chair

SUCCESSFUL REGION 7 HIV STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING HELD APRIL 11TH AT ELMHURST COLLEGE

Approximately 40 key stakeholders representing HIV prevention, care, and treatment, education/academia, substance abuse treatment and prevention, corrections, Planned Parenthood, community health centers, and other affiliated areas participated in the meeting. There was also a staff member from Representative Rita Mayfield's office in attendance! The meeting, organized and facilitated by the ILHPG and held at Elmhurst College, was an opportunity to inform and educate participants about the national and the Illinois HIV/AIDS Strategies and to strive to achieve a more coordinated response to HIV by engaging key community stakeholders and enhancing the collaboration across programs. Presentations were provided on the HIV epidemic in Region 7, including mapping of the HIV incidence and prevalence in the region by county; the national and Illinois HIV/AIDS strategies; and the Illinois HIV Engagement Plan. Then there was a facilitated small group discussion on questions about how we can best achieve the goals and objectives of the Illinois HIV AIDS Strategy. Thanks to the community planning intern, the HIV Section Training Unit, the care and prevention lead agents, and ILHPG members from Region 7 who helped plan and coordinate the meeting and to everyone who participated! These meeting have been a tremendous opportunity to truly "engage" region key stakeholders in HIV planning.

Next on the calendar are the Region 2 Stakeholder Engagement Meeting that will be held May 9th at the Peoria Public Library and the Region 5 meeting that will be held August 7th in Carbondale. The ILHPG plans to have a report of the 2014 engagement meetings, including a summary analysis and highlights of responses, as well as recommendations identified through the discussion, completed and presented to the ILHPG by the end of 2014.

Submitted by Janet Nuss, Illinois Department of Public Health ILHPG Co-chair



MEMBER PROFILE : RORY JAMES, MPH



Greetings. My name is Rory G. James and I currently serve as Director of the Bruce D. Nesbitt African American Cultural Center (BNAACC) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I was born and raised on the far South Side of Chicago to two wonderful parents and I have seven siblings. I am a proud product of the Chicago Public School (CPS) system. I received my Bachelors of Science in Biology (Cum Laude) from the historical Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, AL. While in Alabama I met some wonderful individuals and joined several organizations, including my fraternity Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated, and I am still actively involved.

After completing my undergrad, I volunteered and worked with the Chicago Department of Public Health at the Roseland STD

Clinic and later as a substitute teacher in Chicago's south suburbs. I continued my education at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana, where I received my Masters in Public Health (Epidemiology). My intentions were to do research and interventions in the area of sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS. However, my career trajectory transformed while working as a graduate assistant in Tulane's Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA). I was introduced to the wonderful field of Student Affairs through this work and my wonderful mentor Dr. Evette Castillo-Clark. I have no regrets in changing career paths; if anything I embody a wide skill-set and knowledge base that benefit Illinois and the students who I work with. Moreover, I have been fortunate to have supervisors that allow me to continue public health outreach and who recommend for campus committees that involve health and wellness. I see myself working as a university administrator either as a Dean of Students or a college health center director (which would allow me to merge my health experience and Higher Ed experiences). Serving on the Illinois HIV Planning Group (ILHPG) is an invigorating commitment that allows me to explore health outreach and education.

I joined ILHPG in the fall of 2011 after a recommendation and referral by Dr. Mildred Williamson. Mildred has been full aware of my career aspirations and pursuit of my MPH because I am close friends with her daughter. Yet another example of how networking and sharing your passions with others present continual professional opportunities. I currently serve as Co-Chair for the ILHPG Evaluations Committee. I look forward to the ILHPG quarterly meetings because of the wealth of data and knowledge presented by the community partners, regional representatives and public health officials involved with the planning group. I consider everyone involved as friends and allies in the fight to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic. My participation in ILHPG has reignited my passion about public health, and it has prompted me to finally pursue a PhD in public health so I can further the work in HIV education, outreach and prevention.

IDPH GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

IDPH Funding Website: <http://www.idph.state.il.us/fundop.htm?>

This website includes:

- Upcoming IDPH Grant Opportunities for:
 - HIV Care Grants
 - HIV Prevention Services Grants
 - Office of Minority Health Grants
 - Women's Health Grants
 - Men's Health Grants
- Past Grant Application Forms and Guidance to help prepare for future grant-writing
- HIV Prevention Intervention Guidance specifying agency and staff pre-requisites to be funded for specific prevention interventions

IDPH Grant Management site: <https://idphgrants.com/user/home.aspx>

EGrAMS: EGrAMS is an Electronic Grants Administration & Management System that aides users in the grants application and management process.

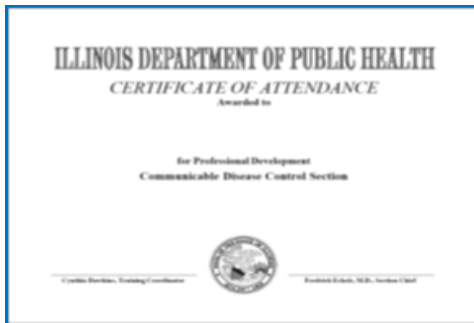
IDPH HIV Prevention Training Website: http://www.idph.state.il.us/aids/HIV_Training_Page.htm

IDPH TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

HIV/AIDS Section:

- Upcoming Training: To view upcoming training, go to http://www.idph.state.il.us/aids/HIV_Training_Page.htm for the latest training schedule.
- **Save the Date:** 2014 Annual Illinois HIV/STD Conference October 28 – 30, 2014 at the Springfield Hilton Hotel

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE TRAINING CORNER



Welcome to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Communicable Disease (CD) “Training Corner”. IDPH will be announcing information on upcoming trainings, conferences and webinars. I hope you find the **Training Corner** as a very useful resource. If you have any suggestions for future trainings that you may be interested in, please contact Cynthia Dawkins, IDPH’s CD Training Coordinator at 217-728-2016.

The webinars will provide updated information on various disease topics to assist staff from IDPH, local health departments (LHDs) and partner agencies in maintaining safe communities. The Training Program coordinates with appropriate groups/agencies to provide continuing education credits (CEUs) for various trainings on infectious disease prevention, surveillance, and management for LHDs, IDPH staff, and partner agencies. The Training Program is providing “Certificates of Attendance” to webinar participants. If you have participated in a previous CD webinar and are interested in receiving a certificate for your participation, please contact the Training Program. **Nurses will be able to receive CEUs from all of the webinars** including previous webinars to use towards their continuing education portfolio. Certificates for nurses are provided by the accrediting agency, Illinois Public Health Nurses Administration (IPHNA).

The Training Resource page has both external and internal training resources. All of the CD webinars do provide Continuing Education Units (CEUs). If you have not attended some of the webinars and would like to view them, please visit our [Training Resource](https://dph.partner.illinois.gov/communities/communicabledisease/CDAZ/Pages/Training%20Resources.aspx) page at <https://dph.partner.illinois.gov/communities/communicabledisease/CDAZ/Pages/Training%20Resources.aspx>. The Training Resource page contains a link to the various webinars, power points, assessments and other downloadable contents/materials from the webinars. The webinars are recorded and posted within 48 hours on the web portal. In addition, our previous webinars are “On-Demand” and can be viewed at your convenience. CEUs are still available for “On-Demand” presentations. Please note, according to the Local Health Protective Grant (LHPG), all employees including new staff are required to take a certain number of hours in training. The CD Training Program can provide guidance for the nurses who work with some of the communicable diseases.

The Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA) is sponsoring the Immunization and Communicable Disease Conference which will be held June 25-26 at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel (10 Brickyard Drive) in Bloomington, IL 61701. The conference participants will include a diverse mix of public health professionals from state and local health departments, healthcare providers, hospitals, and IDPH partner organizations. Registration forms are available via the Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA) website www.ipha.com. To make a reservation to stay overnight, you may contact the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel directly at 309-664-6446 and ask for the IPHA conference. All local health department staff are invited to attend. The IDPH Communicable Disease Training Program will have a booth on site to answer any questions about the CD webinars, provide demonstrations and other technical assistance. Staff members Michael Moore and Cynthia Dawkins will be in attendance at the conference. Please stop by to say hello and put a face with the name.

Cynthia Dawkins, BS, MPA
Illinois Department of Public Health
Communicable Diseases Surveillance/Training Coordinator
cynthia.dawkins@illinois.gov

TRAINING CORNER



Hepatitis Series I, II, III

The Communicable Disease Training Program invites you to participate in a webinar series highlighting the various types of hepatitis.

The webinars are On-Demand to review at your convenience
Contact the Training Program for technical assistance

To view the [recorded webinars](#), please visit the following links:

Broadcasted: Wednesday, April 2, 2014, 10:00am – 11:00am

Presenter: [Leslie Choat](#)

Hepatitis C: <http://idph.adobeconnect.com/hepatitis-c-recorded-webinar-module/event/login.html>

Broadcasted: Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 10:00am – 11:00am

Presenter: [Richard Zimmerman](#)

Hepatitis B & D: <http://idph.adobeconnect.com/hep-b-d-mod/event/login.html>

Broadcasted: Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 10:00am – 11:00am

Presenter: [Dr. Fred Echols](#)

Hepatitis A & E: <http://idph.adobeconnect.com/hep-a-e-module/event/registration.html>

Cynthia Dawkins, BS, MPA
Illinois Department of Public Health
Communicable Diseases Surveillance/Training Coordinator
cynthia.dawkins@illinois.gov